



## Potential Environmental Impacts

Throwing recyclables in the trash has negative impacts on air and water quality and wastes energy and natural resources. Diverting reusable materials from the waste stream through recycling results in using fewer raw materials and reduces the amount of waste that must be landfilled or incinerated.

Note: If your business dismantles vehicles, please see the Auto Recycling Compliance Guide at [www.dep.state.ct.us/enf/autorecyclingguide.pdf](http://www.dep.state.ct.us/enf/autorecyclingguide.pdf) for more information on recycling scrap metal and scrap catalytic converters.



**Illegally disposed corrugated cardboard and mixed waste**

## Legal Requirements

- ◆ All businesses, municipalities and state agencies are required to recycle [CGS Section 22a-241b(c)]. See the table below for the mandated items that must be recycled by your facility.

### What Are The Mandated Items That Must Be Recycled In Connecticut?

Your facility probably does not generate large volumes of some of the mandated items listed in the table below. However, removing these items from your regular waste can reduce the amount you pay for trash disposal. There are no facilities or trash haulers permitted in Connecticut to “pick through” mixed trash to retrieve designated recyclable materials. It is your responsibility to separate your recyclables.

MANDATED ITEM	HOW TO RECYCLE
Used Oil	See fact sheet on “Used Oil” for more information
Lead Acid Batteries	See fact sheet on “Batteries (Lead Acid)” for more information.
Scrap Metal	Recycle items consisting predominantly of ferrous metals (steels), brass aluminum, copper, lead, chromium, tin, nickel or alloy.
Nickel-cadmium Batteries	Call (800) 8BATTERY to find the nearest participating retail outlet that collects these batteries for recycling.
Corrugated Cardboard (has three layers -- a wavy layer between two flat paper layers)	Keep corrugated cardboard separate from other wastes. Remove any plastic, foam, wood, etc. from corrugated boxes. Open and flatten the boxes and place them in a dumpster or compactor used only for corrugated cardboard.
Office Paper and Newspaper	Take it to your municipal recycling center/transfer station or have employees take small amounts of newspapers home for recycling.

Glass and Metal Food/Beverage Containers	The small number of containers generated by the employees who work at your facility can be taken home for recycling or taken to your town's recycling drop-off center or transfer station.
Leaves and Grass Clippings	Rake leaves to a wooded area on the site, or compost leaves on site in a small contained pile. In some towns you may be able to place leaves at the curb for municipal collection or take them to a municipal leaf composting pile. Leave grass clippings on the lawn.

In addition to the items listed above, many municipalities have ordinances that require additional items to be recycled. To find out about those additional items, contact your municipal recycling contact or refer to your local solid waste and recycling ordinance.

Specific questions about recycling options can be answered by your municipality, or call the CT-DEP's Recycling Program at (860) 424-3365 for more information.

## Best Management Practices

- ★ Educate employees about separating recyclables from the trash.
- ★ Considering cooperating with other nearby businesses to simplify recycling and reducing costs. Your municipal recycling coordinator may be able to help you set up a program.
- ★ Purchase products made with recycled content to close the recycling loop (i.e., create a market for the products you recycle). The quality of these products is just as good as those made with virgin materials and prices are competitive.
- ★ Purchase frequently used products in bulk (e.g., oil, antifreeze) to reduce packaging waste.
- ★ Keep dumpsters covered or position them in a roofed area. Make sure their drain plugs are intact.

## Pollution Prevention Checklist

- ✓ Do you have separate, labeled containers for recyclables at your facility?

YES    NO    N/A



### Did You Know?

The automobile is the number one recycled product in America. Over 75% of the materials from cars are recycled. Recycled vehicles generate over 12 million tons of recycled steel, saving enough energy to power over 18 million homes for a full year.

### 2004 Pit Stops Fact Sheets

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127  
Office of Pollution Prevention (860) 424-3297 [www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/vehicle/abindex.htm](http://www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/vehicle/abindex.htm)

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